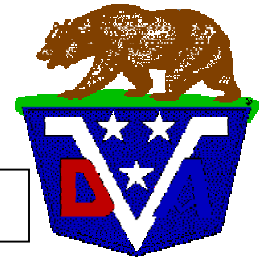


California Department of Veterans Affairs

Gray Davis, Governor
K. Maurice Johannessen, Secretary



CAL-VET LOANS – VETERANS HOMES – VETERANS SERVICES – WOMEN VETERANS
VETERANS CEMETERIES AND MEMORIALS – VETS LICENSE PLATES

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Communications Office
Andrew Kotch 916-653-2192/316-2641(cell)

Cal-Vet HOME LOAN PROGRAM OFFERS ASSISTANCE TO VETERANS AFFECTED BY WILDFIRES

SACRAMENTO, CA. OCTOBER 30, 2003 – The Cal-Vet Home Loan program, a service of the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA), has implemented mortgage relief assistance for veterans with Cal-Vet loans. “This is a terrible situation facing thousands of Californians as they look to rebuild their lives. The Cal-Vet Home Loan program will do all in its power to assist those veterans with home and farm loans through this program,” commented K. Maurice Johannessen, Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Cal-Vet office will work with homeowners affected by the wildfires raging through Southern California either by delaying or reducing their mortgage payments in the case of hardship. To get more information on assistance Cal-Vet loan homeowners should call **(800) 952-5626** or e-mail loanserv@cdva.ca.gov. Local Cal-Vet Home Loan offices can also be contacted.

Ventura Office
1000 South Hill Road
Suite 112
Ventura, Ca. 93003
805-654-6901
Ventura@cdva.ca.gov

Riverside Office
1770 Iowa Ave.
Suite 260
Riverside, Ca. 92507
909-774-0102
Riverside@cdva.ca.gov

San Diego Office
3160 Camino Del Rio South
Room 112
San Diego, Ca. 92108
619-641-5840
SanDiego@cdva.ca.gov

(North & West portions of
Los Angeles County, San
Luis Obispo, Ventura, and
Santa Barbara)

(South & East portions of
Los Angeles County,
Riverside, excluding a
southwest portion of
Riverside & San Bernardino

Imperial, Orange, San Diego
Counties and a southwest
portion of Riverside County

Veterans should also be reminded that Cal-Vet home loans provided through the CDVA are covered for fire and hazard insurance (except for mobile homes and condominiums). Veterans with these loans who have been affected by the fires should contact the **GAB Robins** at **1-800-626-1613, extension 5**.

The Cal-Vet Home Loan program has provided home and farm mortgages to more than 413,000 California veterans since its inception in 1921. Today the program provides for 21,000 veterans.

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Note to editors: This news release and previous CDVA news releases are available on our website at www.cdva.ca.gov and via e-mail from andrew.kotch@cdva.ca.gov or jaimeteaga@cdva.ca.gov